

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraphs on page 2, between lines 4 and 21 as follows:

~~An artificial~~ Artificial leather produced by the conventional production method, i.e., suitable for a common artificial leather sheet, is widely used for clothing, shoes, gloves and the like because it has a superior appearance and touch. However, it is inferior in strength and ~~had~~ has too high an elongation. This makes it difficult to ~~apply~~ use the sheet to ~~covering for~~ cover furniture, as a ~~cover sheet for a~~ car chair, for men's clothing and the like, which require a form-stability.

To solve such a problem, there was proposed a method for improving form-stability by increasing the amount of polyurethane resin to be impregnated when producing the sheet for artificial leather. In this case, the artificial leather ~~has an~~ achieves excellent form-stability but is low in softness and accordingly, there is a risk that the appearance of the artificial leather is becomes spoiled.

There was an attempt to decrease the amount of polyurethane resin to be impregnated to thus improve the appearance and touch of the product when producing ~~the a~~ sheet for artificial leather. In this case, however, the form-stability of the artificial leather ~~was~~ became degraded.

Please amend the paragraphs on page 3, between lines 5 and 17 as follows:

This method can improve the form-stability of the artificial leather but there is a problem that the fibers of the layer of the fabrics for reinforcement, which has a much large denier than the ultra fine, fiber are raised and ~~protruded~~ protrude to the surface of the composite sheet, thus

making the touch of the artificial leather rough and hard. Additionally, when performing dyeing, there occurs a difference in dyeing concentration due to a difference in denier between the ultra fine fiber which ~~protruded~~ protrudes to the surface and the thick fiber of the layer of ~~the~~ fabrics for reinforcement, thereby degrading the appearance of the product.

As seen from the conventional art, a composite sheet for artificial leather capable of improving the form-stability and touch of the artificial leather has not yet been developed ~~yet~~.

Please amend the paragraph commencing on page 3, last line through page 4, line 11 as follows:

The present invention provides a composite sheet for artificial leather which has excellent form-stability and softness so that it is suitable for the production of artificial leather for furniture, cars, men's clothing and sundry goods. ~~For this~~ Thus, the present invention provides a composite sheet for artificial leather which has excellent elongation and softness which has a stitching strength of more than 30kg/mm, an elongation at constant load of less than 20% and a stiffness of less than 80mm by inserting a woven or knitted fabric, constructed - from a yarn made of ultra fine fibers having a monofilament denier of less than 0.3 into a common sheet for artificial leather composed of a non-woven fabric layer made of ultra fine fiber and polyurethane resin and needle-punching ~~them~~ the composite.

Please amend the paragraph on page 5, between lines 17 and 21 as follows:

Firstly, ultra fine fibers which are employable in the present invention are made by conjugate-spinning or mix-spinning two kinds of fiber forming polymer materials into a sea-island type or division type, or by ordinary-spinning ~~a~~ of fiber forming polymer materials to a fineness of less than 0.3 denier.

Please amend the paragraphs commencing on page 7, line 4 through page 8, line 8 as follows:

Additionally, the yarn constituting the woven or knitted fabric layer(2) in the present invention is more preferably constructed of ultra fine fibers having a fineness of 0.01 to 0.3 denier. Larger fineness may cause damage of the woven or knitted fabric due to a needle-punching operation for bonding the woven or knitted fabric(2) to the staple non-woven fabric layer (1) and the damaged fibers often come out to the surface of the artificial leather. Thusly, since the fibers of the woven or knitted fabric layer(2) which come ~~out~~ to the surface has a larger fineness than that of the staple fibers of the non-woven fabric layer(1), this brings about an uneven appearance of the artificial leather and lower softness. Moreover, since the color of the artificial leather is changed a lot according to ~~a~~ the fineness of the fibers after dyeing, the fibers of the woven or knitted fabric layer(2) exposed to the surface appears ~~is shown~~ to be a conspicuous defect. Furthermore, since a large fineness of fibers can make the touch of the woven or knitted fabric layer(2) excessively hard, this can spoil the softness of the artificial leather.

The present invention does not specially limit the lowest value of the denier of the ultra fine fibers constituting the woven or knitted fabric layer(2). However, in the case that the yarn

constructed of excessively fine fibers is used for the production of the woven or knitted fabric layer(2), it is difficult to uniformly control the fineness of the ultra fine fibers, the degree of elongation is increased during the process after removing the sea component and the physical properties of the final product, such as strength, elongation and the like, is largely decreased, thereby reducing the effect of improving the form-stability. Therefore, the fineness of the ultra fine fibers is more preferably more than 0.01 denier and less than 0.3 denier.